



MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Government Chief Elected Officials, Authority Contacts, Authority Training/Education Partners

FROM: Christopher Nunn, Commissioner

DATE: September 23, 2022

SUBJECT: Proposed Revisions to the Rules for Annual Authority Registration and Financial Reporting

Summary: DCA plans to amend its rules governing annual reporting by authorities. These amendments will reflect recent legislative changes and update standards to reflect processes and systems that authorities have already implemented.

Earlier this year the Georgia General Assembly passed HB 1044 that authorizes creation of Regional Industrial Development Authorities (RIDA). Among the requirements of this act is a provision that requires board members of this new type of authority to “have completed a basic economic development training course certified by the Department of Community Affairs as meeting certain minimum educational standards, which such department shall prescribe by rule and regulation.” Pursuant to statute, DCA is moving forward to establish the minimum educational standards that will apply solely to training provided for RIDA board members. The standards DCA has developed have been crafted to establish a basic threshold for required course content while ensuring that existing, high-quality training programs already offered by our partners to board members of other types of authorities will be suitable to officials affiliated with these new entities once they begin to be created.

In amending our rules pursuant to HB 1044, we are taking the opportunity to reformat the standards to comply with the most current guidance from the Administrative Procedures Division of the Office of the Secretary of State. Additionally, a number of other modifications have been included to bring the rules into closer alignment with changes to systems and processes that have been necessitated by changing technology over the past few years. Nothing in these additional modifications should have any meaningful impact on the way any authority is already doing business. Rather, these modifications are being made specifically to reflect changes in business processes that have already occurred at local authorities and at DCA.

State law (Georgia Administrative Procedures Act O.C.G.A. §50-13-1, et seq.) provides an opportunity for you to provide input on these draft rules or request changes prior to

adoption by the Board of Community Affairs. To assist you with this, I have attached a synopsis of the proposed amendments as well as a “Notice of Public Hearing and Intent to Adopt” these proposed changes. A clickable link to the draft standards has been included in each of the attached



Brian P. Kemp
Governor

Christopher Nunn
Commissioner



documents. You can submit your comments in writing to the address below, or you can attend one of the public hearings.

Please note that the Board of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs intends to act on the proposed amended standards at its meeting at 1:00 P.M. on Wednesday, November 9, 2022, at the Savannah Economic Development Authority, 906 Drayton Street, Savannah, Georgia 31401. If adopted by the Board of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, the revised rules will become effective January 1, 2023.

The full text of the proposed rules can be found on our website at: <https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/4244/documents/2033>.

If you have any questions, need additional information, or wish to submit comments on the rules, please contact:

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